Increase in liability of Government

†211. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's reaction to the news-item which appeared in "Dainik Jagran" dated 25th June, 2000 under the caption "Kendra Sarkar Ki Dendari mein 23.25 arab rupaye ki vriddhi"; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) As per Budget 2000-2001, Central Government's net borrowing requirement from all sources is placed at Rs. 111275 crore. The budget also provides for gross borrowings of Rs. 140000 crore during the year from the Reserve Bank of India through Ways and Means Advances. These advances are taken to meet temporary mismatches between cash receipts and cash disbursements and are repayable during the same year.

Applications for opening private sector Banks

212. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eleven applications including that of the State owned Exim Bank for opening up private sector banks have been pending with Government for long;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these applicants who applied for a bank licence in 1993 have not been communicated either acceptance or the reasons for rejection; and

(c) if so, by when the decision is likely to be taken in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that 11 applications are pending for setting up of new banks in the private sector. These applications were made on the basis of the 1993 guidelines. Consideration of the pending applications for setting up new private sector banks await the finalisation of revised guidelines.

Suspension of Additional Commissioner of Income Tax, New Delhi

213. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.